

This policy has been indefinitely suspended as of 4/20/01.

Equivalency Policy **01-G**: RN/PA curriculum review

November 2000

Background: EMS §157.33, requires candidates who are certified or licensed in another healthcare discipline to have a department approved post secondary education institution determine equivalency for EMS education. If the candidate chooses not to have the training evaluated by a college program, this policy calls for regional EMS staff to evaluate registered nurse (RN) or physician assistant (PA) candidates' training for EMS certification consideration.

Statute Reference: Health and Safety Code, Section 773.050(d)

Rule Reference: §157.33 (n) Equivalency

Policy: An RN or PA licensed in the United States may make application for EMS equivalency by submitting the RN/PA Equivalency for EMS Certification or Paramedic Licensure application and appropriate fee to the local regional EMS office. The application packet must include:

- (a) RN or PA license number or copy of current RN or PA license
- (b) a copy of an American Heart Association (AHA) or American Red Cross (ARC) cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) successful course completion as follows:
 - (1) for ECA and EMT certification, the AHA Course: Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers or the ARC CPR Basic Life Support for the Professional Rescuer course
 - (2) for EMT-I or EMT-P certification/licensure, the AHA Advanced Cardiac Life Support course
- (c) a copy of work history for the 36 months preceding the date of application, including positions held and place of employment and evidence of proficiency in endotracheal intubation
- (d) extrication, clinical in-hospital, and EMS vehicle requirements for EMT certification or complete clinical in-hospital, and EMS vehicle requirements for EMT-I or EMT-P certification/licensure as required by EMS rule
 - (1) the clinical in-hospital and/or EMS vehicle requirements may be waived after evaluation by the department of the 36-month work history
- (e) skills proficiency verification conducted by a TDH approved education program

The candidate must achieve a passing grade on the certification exam, within one year of EMS application approval date. A candidate who fails the exam may retest by submitting the retest application and paying the \$25 retest fee. The candidate who fails the retest will be allowed a 2nd retest after completing a department approved refresher course. The candidate will submit the refresher course certificate, 2nd retest application with \$25 retest fee.

The basic level candidate who fails the initial and retest exams must gain basic certification by meeting initial requirements for certification which include completing a basic level initial course. The advanced level candidate who fails the initial and retest exams must gain basic certification either by equivalency or initial course process. To become eligible for advanced level certification they must complete an initial advanced level course.

Candidates who meet these requirements will be certified for four years commencing on the date of issuance of a certificate and wallet-size certificate. In the case of equivalency, basic level EMS certification is not a prerequisite for gaining advanced level certification.

— Kathryn C. Perkins, Chief
— Bureau of Emergency Management
— Signed January 22, 2001

Policy 01-G